

1   **THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY**  
2   **OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:**

4   1. A telecommunication network management tool for visually distinguishing a selected  
5   telecommunication information subset related to a selected telecommunication network  
6   layout, the tool comprising:

- 7                 a) a user interface for assembling an altered representation of the network  
8                         layout through a selected parameter, the user interface co-ordinating the  
9                         display of the representation on a display;  
10                 b) a view selector coupled to the user interface for specifying the selected  
11                         information subset and a reference view, the reference view comprising a  
12                         data subset contained in the network layout; and  
13                 c) a display controller coupled to the user interface for combining the  
14                         information subset and the reference view to generate the representation  
15                         according to the selected parameter;

16                 wherein the selected parameter affects the display content of the representation which  
17                 provides a visual distinction between the selected information subset and the reference  
18                 view of the representation.

19   2. The tool according to claim 1, wherein the information subset is selected from the group  
20                 comprising: a first data subset contained in an information set for systematic presentation  
21                 of the network layout; and a second data subset external to the information set for  
22                 augmenting the systematic presentation of the network layout.

23   3. The tool according to claim 2, wherein said view selector further comprises a plurality of  
24                 the selected parameters for contributing to the contents of said information subset.

25   4. The tool according to claim 3, wherein the selected parameter is selected from the group  
26                 comprising technology types, logical modes, and physical modes.

27   5. The tool according to claim 3, wherein the contents of said information subset is  
28                 distinguished from said reference view through a selected visual characteristic.

29   6. The tool according to claim 5, where said visual characteristic is selected from the group  
30                 comprising; colour, shading, degree of transparency, and line type.

- 1    7. The tool according to claim 3, wherein the selected parameter is a technology specific  
2       visual representation different from the representation employed to display said reference  
3       view.
- 4    8. The tool according to claim 7, wherein said technology specific visual representation  
5       facilitates the display of primary state information.
- 6    9. The tool according to claim 7, wherein said technology specific visual representation  
7       facilitates the display of secondary state information.
- 8    10. The tool according to claim 7, wherein the selected parameter is a technology specific  
9       visual representation different from the representation employed to display said reference  
10      view.
- 11   11. The tool according to claim 3 further comprising a save mode for storing the selected  
12      parameters for application to alternative ones of said information set.
- 13   12. The tool according to claim 2 further comprising a toggle switch for adding or removing  
14      a selected one of said information subsets from the display of said representation on  
15      demand.
- 16   13. The tool according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of the information subsets are  
17      combined with said reference view for display as the representation.
- 18   14. The tool according to claim 12, wherein a plurality of the information subsets are  
19      combined with said reference view for display as the representation.
- 20   15. The tool according to claim 2, wherein said view selector further comprises a plurality of  
21      the selected parameters for contributing to the contents of said information subset.
- 22   16. The tool according to claim 15, wherein the selected parameter is selected from the group  
23      comprising technology types, logical modes, and physical modes.
- 24   17. The tool according to claim 15, wherein the contents of said information subset is  
25      distinguished from said reference view through a selected visual characteristic.
- 26   18. The tool according to claim 17, where said visual characteristic is selected from the group  
27      comprising; colour, shading, degree of transparency, and line type.
- 28   19. A method for visually distinguishing a selected telecommunication information subset  
29      related to a selected telecommunication network layout, the method comprising the steps  
30      of:

- 1           a) selecting a data set representing the selected network;  
2           b) specifying a selected parameter for providing the selected information  
3           subset and a reference view, the reference view comprising a data subset  
4           contained in the data set representing the selected network;  
5           c) combining the information subset and the reference view for assembling  
6           an altered representation according to the selected parameter; and  
7           d) displaying the altered representation on a display;

8           wherein the selected parameter affects the display content of the altered representation  
9           which provides a visual distinction between the selected information subset and the  
10          reference view of the representation.

11       20. A computer program product for visualizing a selected telecommunication information  
12          subset related to a selected telecommunication network layout, the product comprising:

- 13           a) a computer readable medium;  
14           b) a user interface module stored on the medium for assembling an altered  
15           representation of the network configuration through a selected parameter,  
16           the user interface module for co-ordinating the display of the  
17           representation on a display;  
18           c) a view selector module coupled to said user interface module for  
19           specifying the selected information subset and a reference view, the  
20           reference view comprising a data subset contained in the network layout;  
21           and  
22           d) a display controller module coupled to said user interface module for  
23           combining the information subset and the reference view to assemble the  
24           representation according to the selected parameter;

25           wherein the selected parameter affects the display content of the representation which  
26           provides a visual distinction between the selected information subset and the reference  
27           view of the representation.